

## § 21.950

(e) Each MDS response station shall employ a directive transmitting antenna oriented towards the transmitter site of the associated MDS station or towards the response station hub with which the MDS response station communicates. The beamwidth between half power points shall not exceed 15° and radiation in any minor lobe of the antenna radiation pattern shall be at least 20 dB below the power in the main lobe of radiation.

(f) A response station may be operated unattended. The overall performance of the response station transmitter shall be checked by the licensee of the station or hub receiving the response signal, or by the licensee's employees or agents, as often as necessary to ensure that the transmitter is functioning in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's rules. The licensee of the station or hub receiving the response signal is responsible for the proper operation of the response station and must have reasonable and timely access to the response station transmitter. The response station shall be installed and maintained by the licensee of the associated station or hub, or the licensee's employees or agents, and protected in such manner as to prevent tampering or operation by unauthorized persons. No response station which has not been installed by an authorized person may lawfully communicate with any station or hub.

[63 FR 65112, Nov. 25, 1998; 64 FR 4055, Jan. 27, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 63737, Nov. 22, 1999]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 65112, Nov. 25, 1998, § 21.949 was added. Paragraphs (b) and (f) contain information and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

## § 21.950 MDS subject to competitive bidding.

Mutually exclusive MDS initial applications are subject to competitive bidding. The general procedures set forth in 47 CFR chapter I, part 1, subpart Q are applicable to competitive bidding proceedings used to select among mutually exclusive MDS applicants, unless otherwise provided in 47 CFR chapter I, part 21, subpart K.

[60 FR 36557, July 17, 1995]

## 47 CFR Ch. I (10–1–01 Edition)

## § 21.951 MDS competitive bidding procedures.

(a) The following competitive bidding procedures will generally be used in MDS auctions. Additional, specific procedures may be set forth by public notice. The Commission may also design and test alternative procedures. *See* 47 CFR 1.2103 and 1.2104.

(1) Competitive bidding design. Simultaneous multiple round bidding will be used in MDS auctions, unless the Commission specifies by public notice the use of sequential oral (open outcry) bidding or sealed bidding (either sequential or simultaneous). Combinatorial bidding may also be used with any type of auction design.

(2) Competitive bidding mechanisms. The Commission may utilize the following mechanisms in MDS auctions:

(i) Sequencing. The Commission will establish and may vary the sequence in which the BTA service areas will be auctioned.

(ii) Grouping. In the event the Commission uses either a simultaneous multiple round competitive bidding design or combinatorial bidding, the Commission will determine which BTA service areas will be auctioned simultaneously or in combination.

(iii) Reservation price. The Commission may establish a reservation price, either disclosed or undisclosed, below which a BTA service area subject to auction will not be awarded.

(iv) Minimum bid increments. The Commission will, by announcement before or during an MDS auction, require minimum bid increments in dollar or percentage terms.

(v) Stopping rules. The Commission will establish stopping rules before or during multiple round MDS auctions in order to terminate an auction within a reasonable time.

(vi) Activity Rules. The Commission will establish activity rules which require a minimum amount of bidding activity. In the event that the Commission establishes an activity rule in connection with a simultaneous multiple round auction, the Commission will allow bidders to request and to receive automatic waivers of such rule, the number of which will be determined by the Commission.

(vii) Suggested minimum bid. The Commission may establish suggested minimum bids on each BTA service area subject to auction. Bids below the suggested minimum bid would count as activity under the activity rule only if no bids at or above the suggested minimum bid are received.

(b) Identities of bidders. The Commission will generally release information concerning the identities of bidders before each auction but may choose, on an auction-by-auction basis, to withhold the identity of the bidders associated with bidder identification numbers. The Commission will announce by public notice before the MDS auction where the bidders' identities will be revealed.

(c) Commission control of auction. The Commission may delay, suspend, or cancel an MDS auction in the event of a natural disaster, technical obstacle, evidence of security breach, unlawful bidding activity, administrative necessity, or for any other reason that affects the fair and efficient conduct of the competitive bidding. The Commission also has the authority, at its sole discretion, to resume the competitive bidding starting from the beginning of the current or some previous round or cancel the competitive bidding in its entirety.

[60 FR 36557, July 17, 1995]

#### **§ 21.952 Bidding application procedures.**

(a) Short-form applications. To participate in MDS auctions, all applicants must submit short-form applications, along with all required certifications and exhibits specified by such forms, pursuant to the provisions of § 1.2105(a) and any Commission public notices. See 47 CFR 1.2105(a).

(b) Filing of short-form applications. Prior to any MDS auction, the Commission will issue a public notice announcing the availability of BTA service areas and, in the event that mutually exclusive short-form applications (as defined by § 21.925(a)(2)) are filed, the date of the auction for those BTA service areas. This public notice also will specify the date on or before which applicants intending to participate in an MDS auction must file their short-form applications in order to be eligi-

ble for that auction, and it will contain information necessary for completion of the application as well as other important information such as the material which must accompany the forms, any filing fee that must accompany the application or any upfront payment that will need to be submitted, and the location where the application must be filed.

(c) Modification and dismissal of short-form applications.

(1) Any short-form application that is not signed in some manner or form, including by electronic means, and does not contain all requisite certifications is unacceptable for filing and cannot be corrected subsequent to any applicable filing deadline. Such short-form application will be dismissed with prejudice.

(2) The Commission will provide bidders a limited opportunity to cure certain defects specified herein and to re-submit an amended short-form application. For MDS, we classify all amendments to a short-form application as major, except those to correct minor errors or defects, such as typographical errors, or those to reflect ownership changes or formation of bidding consortia or joint bidding arrangements specifically permitted under § 21.953. A short-form application may be modified to make minor amendments. However, applicants who fail to correct defects in their short-form applications in a timely manner as specified by public notice will have their applications dismissed with no opportunity for re-submission.

(3) A short-form application will be considered to be a newly filed application if it is amended by a major amendment and may not be resubmitted after applicable filing deadlines.

[60 FR 36558, July 17, 1995]

#### **§ 21.953 Prohibition of collusion.**

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this section, after the filing of short-form applications, all applicants in an MDS auction are prohibited from cooperating, collaborating, discussing or disclosing in any manner the substance of their bids or bidding strategies, or discussing or negotiating settlement agreements, with other applicants until after the winning bidder makes the required down